Joint Operations Integrated Software Technology (JOIST) Questions & Answers

(From JOIST Industry Day and One-on-Ones, 12-14 April 2016, and all anonymous questions to the JOIST CO as of 25 May, 2016)

1. Q: How long is the anonymous-question submission feature on your webpage open?
   A: The anonymous question submission feature will be available through the release of the final Request for Proposals (RFP). After release of the RFP, all questions must be submitted via email to the Contracting Officer.

2. Q: When will the JOIST Technical Library be open?
   A: The JOIST Technical Library is currently open and can be accessed through the JOIST acquisition website found at http://procurement.jsc.nasa.gov/joist/. If you wish to request access to the JOIST Technical Library, please follow the instructions on the website.

3. Q: Will the slides shown at the Industry Day briefing be published?
   A: Yes, the Industry Day charts are posted on the JOIST acquisition website found at http://procurement.jsc.nasa.gov/joist/.

4. Q: Will the FOD 5 year plan mentioned in the Industry Day briefing be available on your webpage.
   A: Yes, the Flight Operations Directorate (FOD) five (5) year plan is posted in the Technical Library on the JOIST acquisition website found at http://procurement.jsc.nasa.gov/joist/.

5. Q: Will there be redacted copies of existing contracts released? Will other information and data about the current contracts be released?
   A: Redacted copies of NNJ09HD46C (Facilities Development and Operations Contract (FDOC)) and NNJ10HD35C (Neutral Buoyancy Laboratory (NBL)/Space Vehicle Mockup Facility (SVMF) Operations Contract (NSOC)) are available on the Johnson Space Center (JSC) Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Library at http://www.nasa.gov/centers/johnson/news/contracts/index.html. The Statements of Work for NNJ13JB36B/NNJ15JA06B (NASA Aircraft Management Information System (NAMIS)), NNJ14RA02C (Advanced Technology and Integration Contract (ATIC)), FDOC, and NSOC are posted in the Technical Library on the JOIST acquisition website found at http://procurement.jsc.nasa.gov/joist/. Other information that may become available in the Technical Library could include current-contract Task Orders, applicable user manuals, and work instructions.

6. Q: Can additional information about the software (e.g. release/change history) that may fall under JOIST be added to the Technical Library? Will NASA provide source code for all applications and tools developed and maintain in the past that will be supported under JOIST?
   A: Documents including, but not limited to, applicable requirements documents and user/help guides will be posted to the Technical Library. Source code will be provided only to successful offerors as necessary to perform the requirements.

7. Q: What is your procurement strategy or approach?
   A: The procurement strategy and approach have not yet been determined.

8. Q: Is there any information about how big the proposed JOIST content has been in the past?
   A: The procurement strategy, including the content of the acquisition, has not yet been determined. Contract award information and significant contract actions for the current contracts are available on FedBizOpps.

9. Q: What is the intent of the JOIST contract; are you trying to carve out all IT?
   A: No. The JOIST contract IT focus is software development (up to full life cycle) and performing some day-to-day IT administration, tasks, and support. The contract work includes specialized software that is not covered under Enterprise or Center support service contracts (e.g. Agency Consolidated End-user Services (ACES; NNX11AA01C), Communications, Outreach, Multimedia and Information Technology (COMIT; NNJ14498840L)) or mission-critical IT that will be performed on such contracts as the Mission Support Operations Contract (MSOC, NNJ16100117L).

10. Q: In which quarter will the next step be executed, or, when will the draft RFP be released? Is there any information on what the schedule will look like? Are there any expectations of schedule slip?
    A: Please refer to the JOIST acquisition website found at http://procurement.jsc.nasa.gov/joist/ for updates related to this procurement, including schedule information. Schedule information will be released as soon as practicable. The target contract-start date is October 1, 2017.

11. Q: When would the blackout occur?
    A: Pursuant to NASA Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement 1815.408-70 (a), upon release of the formal RFP, the Contracting Officer shall direct all personnel associated with the acquisition to refrain from communicating with prospective offerors and to refer all inquiries to the Contracting Officer or other authorized representative. This procedure is commonly known as a "blackout notice" and shall not be imposed prior to release of the RFP.

12. Q: Was carving IT work out of MSOC for JOIST due to small business goals?
    A: No.

13. Q: Is there any information you can share regarding NASAs Small Business goals/strategy for this contract?
    A: NASA is still determining the acquisition strategy. Information will be released as soon as practicable.

14. Q: Would you consider making the NAICS code an R&D size standard?
    A: NASA is still determining the acquisition strategy.

15. Q: Is there a JSC policy preventing a small business from being a mentor?
    A: There is no JSC policy that would prevent a small business from being a mentor. NASA has its own Mentor Protégé program; in accordance with NFS 1819.72, a mentor must be: 1. A large prime contractor performing under a NASA contract with at least one approved Federal subcontracting plan, as required by FAR 19.7 (the Small Business Subcontracting Program), and 2. Eligible for the receipt of Government contracts.

    A small business may be a mentor under the SBA Mentor Protégé program; the mentor requirements are as follows:

    To participate in the program, mentors can be a business that have graduated from the 8(a) Business Development program, in the transitional stage of the program, or a small or large business. Mentor businesses must also:

    • Have favorable financial health, including profitability for at least the last two years
    • Be a federal contractor in good standing
    • Be able to provide valuable support to a protégé through lessons learned and practical experience gained from the 8(a) BD program (or through general knowledge of government contracting)
    • Make at least a yearlong commitment to the protégé

    For more information regarding the mentor/protégée program, contact the JSC Industry Assistance Office. http://procurement.jsc.nasa.gov/smbus.html

16. Q: How is JSC doing meeting Small Business goals this year? Is there a small business representative for JOIST?
    A: The JSC Small Business Office is still determining the status of JSC's small business goals. There is no particular small business representative assigned to JOIST. Please contact the JSC Industry Assistance Office http://procurement.jsc.nasa.gov/smbus.html, for additional information on any small business efforts.

17. Q: Do you have a roadmap showing how NASA see's the FOD contracts evolving over time?
    A: No. FOD is still exploring options for structuring the Directorate's contracts so the contract plan is still evolving. Early goals that have been identified for this effort is to consolidate and combine like-tasks being performed separately across FOD contracts. Consult the NASA JSC Strategic Acquisition Forecast Evaluation (SAFE) presentation to industry from August 2015, and the NASA acquisition forecast at the following links:
    http://procurement.jsc.nasa.gov/docs/SAFE%20Industry%20Forum-081015.pdf
    http://www.hq.nasa.gov/office/procurement/forecast/

18. Q: If there is procurement, will the names of the Procurement Development Team (PDT) members be released?
    A: Yes. The PDT names will be posted to the JOIST acquisition website found at

http://procurement.jsc.nasa.gov/joist/.

19. Q: Is there any plan to use services from any Government-wide Acquisition Contracts (GWAC)?
A: NASA is still determining the acquisition strategy.

20. Q: If there is a potential for an Organizational Conflict of Interest (OCI), will it be clearly stated?
A: Known Organization Conflicts of Interest will be addressed in the Request for Proposals. In addition, proposing companies will be expected to address OCI in their proposal.

21. Q: Will cybersecurity work be a small or large piece? What is the demarcation between Base Information Technology Security (BITSec) and the JOIST work? Would there be any OCI?
A: The JOIST contract will require compliance with FOD's, JSC's, and NASA's IT Security programs which are based upon NPD/NPR 2810.1. The BITSec prime contractor and its subcontractors are precluded from providing IT support services on any other NASA JSC contracts (including JOIST) due to immitigable OCI.

22. Q: Regarding OCI; can companies sub on both MSOC and JOIST?
A: A company can submit a proposal in response to any Request for Proposal. Known OCI will be addressed in the RFP. In addition, proposing companies will be expected to address the OCI in their proposal.

23. Q: Is there an advantage to having contractors that participate in other NASA contracts on this proposal to gain some of the continuity that is desired as part of this procurement?
A: A company's proposal strategy is up to that proposing company.

24. Q: Which facilities will the JOIST contract support?
A: Currently, JOIST predecessor-contract support is provided to the Johnson Space Center facilities at the JSC campus, Ellington Field and Sonny Carter Training Facility (SCTF)), and the NASA hangar at the El Paso International Airport.

25. Q: Are there any plans to commercialize NAMIS?
A: No, however the NAMIS team is in discussion with other Federal agencies interested in NAMIS and have had inquiries from industry interested in proposing NAMIS for use on other government contracts.

26. Q: Do you foresee much change in the NAMIS software or is it stable?
A: NAMIS is expected to be stable at the start of the JOIST contract. Ongoing support for change requests and discrepancy reports will be needed, as will routine upgrades.

27. Q: Does NASA have a timeline for retiring the NAMIS software?
A: No; NAMIS software retirement is not being considered for this effort.

28. Q: Given NASA's budget concerns/reduction, is NASA pushing towards an LPTA strategy?
A: NASA is still determining the acquisition strategy.

29. Q: Is agile software development as common at JSC as it is elsewhere in industry, or are there other new ways to do things, e.g. clouds, etc.?
    A: Agile software development is not new to Johnson Space Center; some organizations use agile software development.

30. Q: If joint ventures were formed and/or proposed, are there any concerns for a joint venture bidding on JOIST?
    A: A company's proposal strategy is up to the proposing companies.

31. Q: Has there been a history of joint ventures here at JSC?
    A: Yes; there are contracts at Johnson Space Center awarded to Joint Ventures.

32. Q: Do you foresee interfaces with other centers, such as KSC, specifically, Ground System Development and Operations (GSDO)?
    A: Interfacing with other centers is a possibility.

33. Q: Is there any IT work out of MSOC that is not in this scope?
    A: Any mission critical items, e.g. commanding and other Mission Control Center (MCC) functions, are not in scope for JOIST.

34. Q: Will this contract work be supporting MCC-21?
    A: No.

35. Q: Considering there are 3 new space vehicles being developed, 2 that are non-NASA, is there any possibility that JOIST will cover some of the work for these vehicles?
    A: NASA is still determining the acquisition strategy.

36. Q: Reducing redundancies or people can be accomplished by modifying configuration management – are you looking to automate such processes? What else are you looking to do to accomplish your goals?
    A: NASA is always looking for contractors to bring in techniques to optimize our work. NASA will provide the requirements in the RFP. Any areas where NASA prefers the contractor use specified already-in-place systems and tools will be identified in the RFP and/or Task Orders.

37. Q: Have you provided current contractors with what you would like to see with respect to the previous question?
    A: No.

38. Q: Regarding the rapid prototyping work, are you looking to adopt other processes, e.g. agile software development?
    A: NASA is always looking for contractors to bring in techniques to optimize our work. NASA will provide the requirements in the RFP. Any areas where NASA prefers the contractor to use specified already-in-place systems and tools will be identified in the RFP and/or Task Orders.

39. Q: Industry is using open source and other advanced items (e.g. cloud computing); will NASA have initiatives like "open-source first"?
A: NASA is always looking for contractors to bring in techniques to optimize our work. NASA will provide the requirements in the RFP. Any areas where NASA prefers the contractor to use specified already-in-place systems and tools will be identified in the RFP and/or Task Orders.

40. Q: Is there an acceptance for Tier 3 work (from the posted Draft Statement of Work) to include unforeseen downtime due to the nature of trying new things?
A: Yes.

41. Q: How does NASA execute software transitions (e.g. MCC21), including COTS software used as part of new software development?
A: FOD's Software Management Plan (SMP) and other associated documents will be included in the JOIST Technical Library that can be found on the JOIST acquisition website at http://procurement.jsc.nasa.gov/joist/.

42. Q: Regarding buying down the cost, if a contractor has other contract vehicles already in place; would NASA leverage those other contract vehicles to reduce costs? For example, if a contractor were to have an agency wide contract already in place – would JOIST expect contractors to leverage such a pre-existing contract?
A: NASA is always looking for contractors to propose approaches to reduce costs.

43. Q: The draft JOIST SOW states that the Tier 2 security is based on the risk environment. Will it be some sort of Indefinite-Delivery/Indefinite-Quantity (IDIQ) environment?
A: NASA is still determining the acquisition strategy.

44. Q: Where is the line to determine what MSOC work will be brought over to JOIST?
A: NASA is still determining the acquisition strategy.

45. Q: What is the intent for IT Security work in JOIST?
A: FOD is still determining the IT Security strategy.

46. Q: Does the effort to consolidate common IT Security work under JOIST mean that there will not be any IT Security work under MSOC?
A: No.

47. Q: Will there be another industry day?
A: Another industry day is not planned at this time. It is anticipated that a pre-proposal conference will be held after the draft RFP is released.

48. Q: Will the scope of JOIST include support to International Partners?
A: Yes

49. Q: Is there any chance of breaking up the JOIST Tiers like what is done on the SEAM contract?
    A: NASA is still determining the acquisition strategy.

50. Q: Are there phase out or transition plans for the work on current contracts when JOIST is implemented? Will the plans be laid-out in the RFP? Will it be a rolling transition?
    A: Much of the work on other contracts that will fall into JOIST are IDIQ; this allows tasks to transition to the JOIST contract on a task-by-task basis. The content of the RFP regarding transition plans has not yet been determined. Typically, determining details of the transition plan is the responsibility of the offeror.

51. Q: What is the estimate of which tiers would have the larger percentage of work? Is there any information of the size of each tier?
    A: The PDT is still working on determining the content and procurement strategy. Further information will be available with the release of a draft RFP and during the pre-proposal conference.

52. Q: You state that "Specialized IT" is one step beyond the current Enterprise (COMIT) support; can you characterize that differently?
    A: The JOIST scope of work is currently accomplished under other contracts. The content of this work goes beyond what the Enterprise IT support provides. For example, if FOD has a non-mission critical, custom software to do a function in the office environment, the Enterprise IT will not support users' needs when it comes specifically to that custom software. FOD must provide that specialized IT support.

53. Q: Is there a plan to migrate existing apps and other software currently in use to the JOIST contract? Is there a plan to do that migration or are you looking for industry to provide guidance?
    A: The Government plans for all software currently being used under the current contracts to continue to be used on JOIST unless the natural life-cycle of the software is terminating or it is being replaced. NASA is always looking for suggestions from industry on optimization of software migration, but the Government will make the final determination when required.

54. Q: What were the drivers and/or reasons for the establishment of the JOIST goals of consolidation and increased innovation/efficiency?
    A: As good stewards of government resources, NASA relies on innovation and efficiency to perform our work. In addition, NASA JSC has recently combined the Flight Crew Operations Directorate (FCOD) and Mission Operations Directorate (MOD). JSC is working to synergize these two previously-independent organizations under the new Flight Operations Directorate (FOD). Suggestions on how to further accomplish these goals are always welcome. If appropriate, the RFP would spell out not only where NASA would like to see such innovations, but also where NASA would like to maintain current systems/processes as they are.

55. Q: How is innovation, past performance and risk used/weighed in the evaluation criteria?
    A: NASA is still determining the acquisition strategy.

56. Q: From an efficiency stand point, considering the budget going down, is there a target you have?
    A: NASA is still determining the acquisition strategy.

57. Q: Other than FOD, who else would be supported with JOIST?
    A: NASA is still assessing what other organizations across the Center would benefit from the JOIST services.

58. Q: Regarding IT Security, MSFC has a pilot program for the Department of Homeland Security. Do you envision this pilot to be a part of this draft RFP?
    A: The JOIST scope allows for participation in such programs.

59. Q: Is FOD currently using cloud services?
    A: No.

60. Q: What is process for getting approval from headquarters for the procurement strategy?
    A: NASA FAR Supplement Part 1807 addresses Acquisition Planning.

61. Q: The draft Statement of Work mentions "a management system" to be used. Is this system in place and does it have a name?
    A: The system is currently being developed. FOD is developing the system to provide a common tool for use across the entire directorate. Once additional information about the system is available, it will be posted in the Technical Library.

62. Q: Will information on how to interface with existing management systems (e.g. JSC Quality Management System, the above-mentioned system) be provided?
    A: Information will either be posted in the technical library or provided during contract phase-in.

63. Q: A number of times the Statement of Work states; "the contractor will host". Does that mean the contractor will provide the equipment or does it mean something else? Will any equipment be transferred to the contractor?
    A: The equipment is Government Furnished Equipment and is managed by the government and, where appropriate, the contractor.

64. Q: Is the decision to proceed with JOIST still undetermined?
    A: NASA is still determining the acquisition strategy.

65. Q: When FCOD and MOD was reorganized into FOD, there were redundancies due to the combination of those 2 organizations. Have all of those redundancies been eliminated?

A: Eliminating redundancies in FOD is a work-in-progress and not all have been eliminated.

66. Q: What is an SLPT?
A: "Streamlined Procurement Team". An SLPT is a streamlined procurement process that utilizes a phased approach. More information on the procurement processes can be found on procurement.jsc.nasa.gov. Reference the "JSC Procurement Industry Forum Charts 04/21/15".

67. Q: What about capturing incumbent staff (institutional knowledge)?
A: Requirements regarding incumbent capture are expected to be included in the RFP.

68. Q: With Innovation, there are a couple of ways to look at it; how it's managed and how the program is structured. Is NASA looking at how IT is delivered or how the program is done?
A: As good stewards of government resources, NASA relies on innovation and efficiency to perform our work. In addition, NASA JSC has recently combined two JSC Directorates, the Flight Crew Operations Directorate (FCOD), and the Mission Operations Directorate (MOD). JSC is working to synergize these two previously-independent organizations under the new Flight Operations Directorate (FOD). Suggestions on how to further accomplish these goals are always welcome. If appropriate, the RFP would spell out not only where NASA would like to see such innovations, but also where NASA would like to maintain current systems/processes as they are.

69. Q: Are there specific standards on how you do cost/benefit analysis or trade studies?
A: NASA customizes such analysis for each effort.

70. Q: Why is NASA requiring Capability Maturity Model Integration (CMMI) Level 3 (L3) certification?
A: CMMI L3 is the legacy CM program under which some software has been developed. The software developed under CMMI L3 certification has critical functions and requires a high level of CM to ensure quality.

71. Q: If a company on a group of teaming companies has a CMMI L3 certification, can other companies on that team work under the CMMI certification?
A: Yes

72. Q: Is there a potential for work that would require certification higher than CMMI L3?
A: Yes

73. Q: Will there be other types of Configuration Management certifications required besides CMMI?
A: The Government has not determined whether other types of Configuration Management certificates are required.

74. Q: Is CMMI L3 similar to the FOD Software Management Plan (SMP) Level a software process?
A: The configuration management process is different, but the type of software designated as

Tier 1 is similar to the Level A software as described in the SMP.

75. Q: For CMMI L3 work, when does that certification need to be in place? Will NASA accept a proposal that has CMMI L3 certification earned in year 1 or does NASA require the certification to be included at proposal time.
A: For the work that requires CMMI-3, the certification needs to be in place at the time of proposal submission.

76. Q: Does NASA require any specific certification for IT support tasks?
A: Certification requirements are dependent on the work being performed and will be identified in the RFP.

77. Q: Are there any minimum requirements for individual certification?
A: Individual certification is not required on the current contracts.

78. Q: How does JOIST fit in with the Enterprise Application Service Technologies 2 (EAST 2) contract since the desire is to bring all software under EAST 2?
A: JOIST is a parallel effort. There is no plan to bring all IT under the EAST contract.

79. Q: Will you be building in a protest period into your procurement schedule?
A: NASA is still determining the acquisition strategy.

80. Q: Is the work in the JOIST scope expected to grow or remain steady state?
A: NASA is still determining the acquisition strategy.

81. Q: Is there a headcount estimate for the current workforce?
A: When and if that information is released, it will be provided on the JOIST acquisition website found at http://procurement.jsc.nasa.gov/joist/.

82. Q: What are the Wage Determination categories?
A: NASA is still determining the acquisition strategy.

83. Q: Are there any unions for the current workforce?
A: No

84. Q: Is there a requirement for classified work?
A: Per the draft Statement of Work, upon identified need by the Government, the contractor shall provide employees who possess or can be authorized to possess and maintain Secret and Top Secret security clearances.

85. Q: What is nature/type of work that might require Secret-level clearances?
A: By definition, that is to be disclosed on a need-to-know basis during performance of the contract.

86. Q: For Top Secret (TS) clearances or higher, will NASA be the sponsor?
A: Contractors can self-sponsor up to the Top Secret level. Only the government can sponsor individuals for TS/Sensitive Compartmented Information (SCI).

87. Q: If security clearances are required, will there be time to process those clearances once the need is identified, or are we expected to already have clearances at the time of the proposal?
A: Yes, there will be time to process clearances should they be required.

88. Q: Will the contractor need to bring in any equipment?
A: No.

89. Q: JOIST is a change in the way you currently do business. How do you envision the JOIST and MSOC contractors interacting?
A: NASA is still determining the acquisition strategy that will define interfaces.

90. Q: Some contracts have sensitive information on webpages (like org charts). Would these web sites be administered by this new contract or stay on the current contract (e.g. MSOC)?
A: Proprietary contractor information will stay in contractor-controlled/restricted sites, but NASA may ask that some information from those sites feed into another system. If sensitive information is accessible by other contractors, the proper Non-Disclosure Agreements will be put in place.

91. Q: Would all FOD websites be administered under JOIST?
A: This information will be addressed in the SOW.

92. Q: Is Tier3 work going to extend to the Astronaut Office? For example, if the Astronaut Office wanted an iPhone app for use on-orbit, would that development be done under Tier 3?
A: Such software development would be appropriate for any Tier of JOIST.

93. Q: Is the Orion cockpit rapid-prototyping and development work under this?
A: This type of work could fit under JOIST but the exact content is still being defined.

94. Q: Will JOIST include service to other centers?
A: NAMIS is currently supporting aircraft operations for all NASA centers with aircraft. For other IT support, the JOIST scope allows service to other centers.

95. Q: What is the ideal case for technical accomplishment?
A: Accomplishing objectives laid-out by JSC's Strategic Acquisition Forecast Evaluation (SAFE) effort is primary goal. JOIST will help FOD meet their goals for JSC by consolidating common work and reducing the contract and IT footprint of FOD.

96. Q: Is the NAICS code shown during Industry Day final?
A: No

97. Q: What work from which contracts will be combined?
    A: The proposed content can be found in the draft Statement of Work and the Industry Day presentation posted to the JOIST acquisition website found at http://procurement.jsc.nasa.gov/joist/.

98. Q: Who are the incumbents for the work being proposed for JOIST?
    A: For NAMIS work, SAIC. For the ATIC work, Tietronix. For the FDOC work, Lockheed-Martin. For the NBL work, Raytheon.

99. Q: Will the same government representatives from the previous contracts be involved in JOIST? Will each Task Order have a single representative?
    A: Government representatives may change. Assigning a Government representative for each Task Order is a standard NASA practice.

100. Q: Will you be posting a list of industry day attendees.
     A: Yes, the Interested Parties list, with contact information, will be posted.

101. Q: Virtual Reality (VR) is mentioned as part of the work that may come out of ATIC to JOIST. Is this work the VR lab itself or some other VR?
     A: The VR Lab is currently under another contract at JSC. VR technology utilization and support will be within the JOIST scope of work.

102. Q: What tools or apps are specific examples of the software being include under JOIST?
     A: This type of information will be provided in the Statement of Work and RFP.

103. Q: Does the graph in the Industry Chart showing the 3 proposed Tiers of JOIST representative of the size of the work in each Tier?
     A: The intent of the graphic was to only show that each Tier will be differing in size. Additional information regarding the content of each Tier will be released with the draft RFP.

104. Q: Is there any process modeling work you envision being performed?
     A: NASA is still determining the acquisition strategy.

105. Q: Can you clarify the delineation between Tier 1 and 3?
     A: Tier 1 software is highly complex and requires a high level of configuration management. Tiers 1 and 2 include work for the full software lifecycle. Tier 3 has minimum configuration management requirements and contains rapid prototyping and development work. Reference the draft Statement of Work for additional details.

106. Q: If JOIST develops a software package for another organization or contract, would it also be responsible for deploying it?
     A: Deployment plans are anticipated to be coordinated with stakeholders and then executed in the most logical manner.

107. Q: What management challenges you would like to addressed on JOIST?
A: Two of JSCs primary SAFE objectives are to reduce the total number of contracts the Government has to manage and to synergize across organizations. JOIST addresses both of these objectives.

108. Q: The JOIST scope requires a number of unique skill sets. Those resources could use common infrastructure like those in COMIT. Have you looked at leveraging COMIT resources, e.g. ticketing, problem resolution or surge support?
A: FOD has worked with the Information Resources Directorate (IRD) and identified the JOIST content as unique.

109. Q: What are the emerging needs that you foresee in the next 5 years?
A: Due to the nature of our work, the Government cannot predict those needs.

110. Q: On other contracts, we have an aging workforce and are looking at greening the organization. Have you seen this type of tactic to reduce costs?
A: It is up to industry to propose how to meet requirements.

111. Q: Do you anticipate a longer phase in period due to the size of the contract and the fact that this is a consolidation of contracts?
A: Phase-in time period will be addressed in the RFP.

112. Q: Is there a core amount of work that will start on day 1?
A: NASA is still determining the acquisition strategy.

113. Q: Do you plan on consolidating Standard Labor Codes from other contracts into one?
A: NASA is still determining the acquisition strategy.

114. Q: Is there a potential for work from IMOC going to JOIST?
A: NASA is still determining the acquisition strategy.

115. Q: Have you considered including a core piece of work in JOIST in addition to IDIQ?
A: NASA is still determining the acquisition strategy.

116. Q: Why did NASA feel they needed to divide the work into Tiers?
A: Tiering the work keeps like-work in like-tiers, causing synergies and allowing for leveraging. Tiering also synergizes the work by Risk, Configuration Management requirements, and complexity.

117. Q: Will this be 8A?
A: NASA is still determining the acquisition strategy.

118. Q: Regarding the theme of saving time and money that was discussed during the Industry Day briefing; what are your expectations for being innovative while not disrupting operations and

avoiding injection of unsafe practices? What specific programs are identified for innovation?
A: The RFP will specify where, and to what level, the Government expects innovation.

119. Q: Will there will be a reduction in headcount to gain efficiencies?
A: A company's proposal strategy is up to that proposing company.

120. Q: How disruptive do you expect vendors to be to ensure FOD will remain relevant in 5 -10 years. Any guidance would be useful, particularly with any specifics on things you want the vendors to accomplish.
A: Where appropriate, the RFP will spell out where innovations can be tolerated and/or encouraged and where NASA would like to maintain continuity of operations.

121. Q: Is the JOIST effort being done because the other contracts are ending or for other reasons?
A: Early goals that have been identified for this effort is to consolidate and combine like-tasks being performed separately across FOD contracts. Consult the NASA JSC Strategic Acquisition Forecast Evaluation (SAFE) presentation to industry from August 2015, and the NASA acquisition forecast at the following links:
http://procurement.jsc.nasa.gov/docs/SAFE%20Industry%20Forum-081015.pdf
http://www.hq.nasa.gov/office/procurement/forecast/

122. Q: What is the expected contract length?
A: NASA is still determining the acquisition strategy.

123. Q: Are there any limitations on not being American citizens?
A: Yes, International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR) and Export Administration Regulations (EAR) apply.

124. Q: Is it too early to tell the size and volume of the Task Orders?
A: Yes, NASA is still determining the acquisition strategy.

125. Q: What help desk elements will be pulled out of FDOC?
A: NASA is still determining the acquisition strategy.

126. Q: Does the Government have any opinions on a joint-venture team structure?
A: Teaming structure of the offeror are at the discretion of the offeror.

127. Q: FOD Director/Brian Kelly said he is willing to talk to us. How do we arrange that?
A: Contact Janice Campbell, Senior Secretary to Brian Kelly, at 281-483-0558.

128. Q: What elements are you referencing as "non-mission critical IT systems"?
A: FOD has applications, unique software, and some end-user hardware. All of these are items fall in between the support provided by Agency Consolidated End-User Services (ACES)/COMIT and mission operations contracts. Much of these non-mission critical IT systems are installed on

ACES platforms.

129. Q: Do you expect the JOIST call desk support to be on-site or near-site?
A: NASA is still determining the acquisition strategy.

130. Q: What constitutes "business systems"? What work will be required to transition these systems from several different contracts into JOIST?
A: More information on the business systems coming under JOIST and the plan for transition will be released with the RFP. Reference Section 2.9 of the current NSOC SOW and Section 2.7 of the current FDOC SOW for the types of systems considered "business systems" and the associated support.

131. Q: The draft SOW states that, "the contractor will procure". Does the Prime have to have a purchasing system?
A: The Government is still in the acquisition planning phase. A purchasing system review will be performed in accordance with FAR part 44 if required.

132. Q: Will you attempt to reduce the number of DRDs?
A: Yes, the Government will only ask for what is needed.

133. Q: Is any part of this Federally Funded Research and Development Center (FFRDC)?
A: No.

134. Q: Do you anticipate staggering the MSOC and JOIST solicitations?
A: These procurements are operating independently.

135. Q: For FOD Director/Brian Kelly: What are your thoughts on servant leadership?
A: Information regarding FOD's strategic plans and related guiding principles will be posted to the JOIST acquisition website found at http://procurement.jsc.nasa.gov/joist/ .

136. Q: Will JOIST apply model-based systems engineering (MBSE) practices to avoid design data obsolescence by adhering to the principles of; 1) one fact in place, 2) automatic propagation of a fact to all the places where it is needed?
A: Reference the draft SOW and JOIST acquisition website found at http://procurement.jsc.nasa.gov/joist/ for more information on the requirements.